GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3903
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2001
PDS NETWORK
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite ever increasing food stocks and growing demands, the union Government have been slow in bringing the Above Poverty Level (APL) segment back into the Public Distribution System network;

(b) whether the Union Government have initiated steps to enlarge the numbers of APL segment in the PDS network;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a),(b),(c)&(d): Families living above poverty line (APL) have not been excluded from allocation of foodgrains under Public Distribution System. While with a view to better targeting the food subsidy towards the families living below poverty line (BPL) allocation of foodgrains for them was doubled from 10 kg to 20 kg at 50% of economic cost w.e.f. 1.4.2000, the allocation for APL families has been retained at the same level as at the time of induction of TPDS at Central Issue Prices fixed at 100% of economic cost from that date.

In order to reduce the excess stocks of foodgrains lying in the Central Pool, Government has decided to allocate foodgrains for APL families at the discounted rate of 70% of the economic cost w.e.f 12.7.2001 till 31.3.2002 or till the excess stocks last.